

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

BURR, Richard M. (Republican)  
Representative, 5th District, North Carolina  
Elected 1994 to the 104th Congress  
Reelected to succeeding Congresses



## BACKGROUND

Born: Charlottesville, Virginia - 30 November 1955

Home: Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Marital status: Married (Brooke) - 2 children

Religion: Methodist

Education: Wake Forest Univ., B.A., 1978

Military: None

Profession: Marketing manager

Political: Republican nominee for the US House, 1992. Defeated A. P. Sands (D) in 1994 with 57% of the vote to succeed Rep Stephen L. Neal (D), who retired. Reelected in 2000 with 93% of the vote and in 2002 with 70%. Will not seek reelection to the House in 2004, running instead for the US Senate seat currently held by Sen John Edwards (D).

Rep Burr is a pragmatic conservative who focuses on health care, bioterrorism, and efforts to support the tobacco farmers and textile industries in his district. In the 105th Congress, supported duty-free Central American and Caribbean imports. In the 106th Congress, opposed a bill to open US markets to African goods. Sought a crackdown on illegal textile imports. Opposed authorizing air strikes against Yugoslavia. Supports the deployment of a national missile defense system. Opposed providing insurance coverage of contraceptives for federal workers.

In the 107th Congress, voted to grant the President fast-track trade negotiating authority. Opposed federalizing passenger and baggage screeners and giving the Justice Dept responsibility for airport security. Favored expanding law enforcement authority to investigate suspected terrorists. Voted to authorize the President to use all necessary and appropriate force against terrorists and nations that aid them. Voted to dedicate 90 percent of the FY 01 surplus for debt reduction. Supported giving electronic signatures the same legal standing as paper signatures in business transactions. Opposing granting China permanent normal trade status (PNTR). Voted for providing Medicare benefits to military retirees and their dependents. Voted to halt funding for US mission Kosovo unless European nations pay more. Urged leaders of Arab nations to expand their anti-terrorism efforts beyond the al Qaeda network. In the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress supported a bill to halt illegal textile imports and urged support for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Additional: Played football for Wake Forest. Member, Reserve Components Caucus, Army Caucus

AF Bases: None

## COMMITTEES

ENERGY AND COMMERCE – Vice Chairman

INTELLIGENCE - Subcs on: Human Intelligence, Analysis and Counterintelligence; Intelligence Policy & National Security; Terrorism and Homeland Security